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ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. Q53891  
PATENT APPLICATION

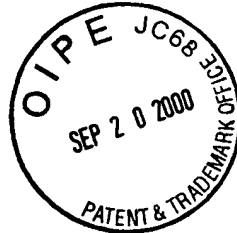
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Kaoru YAMAMOTO, et al.

Appln. No. 09/285,772

Filed: April 05, 1999



Group Art Unit: 2713

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For: DATA RECORDING MEDIUM, AND DATA REPRODUCING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

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In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

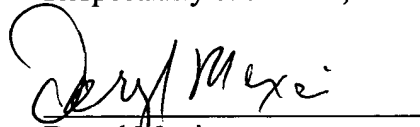
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required. Nevertheless, since a Statement can be made, a Statement is submitted herewith.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
U.S. Appln. No. 09/285,772

Applicants enclose herewith a copy of a corresponding Communication from a Foreign Patent Office citing such documents, together with an English-language version (if not already included) of that portion of the Communication from a Foreign Patent Office indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Darryl Mexic  
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Date: September 20, 2000

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STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

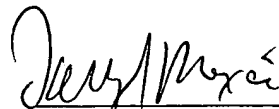
Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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